



**National
Transportation
Safety Board**

Loss of Control Eurocopter AS350

Las Vegas, Nevada
December 7, 2011



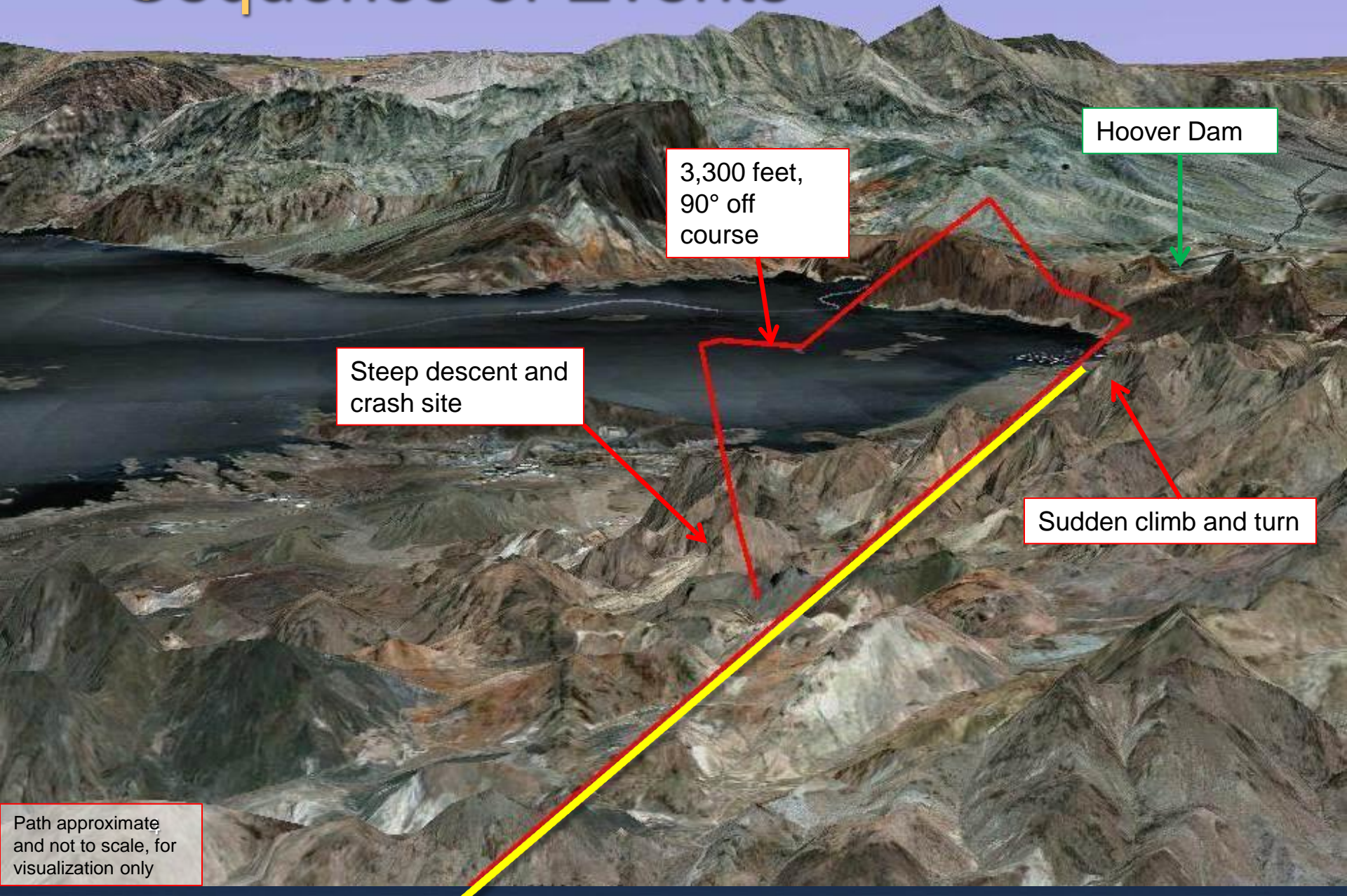
Initial Information

- Sightseeing tour from Las Vegas to Hoover Dam
- Normal departure – visual flight rules
- Calm wind, good visibility
- Standardized tour route

Flightpath



Sequence of Events



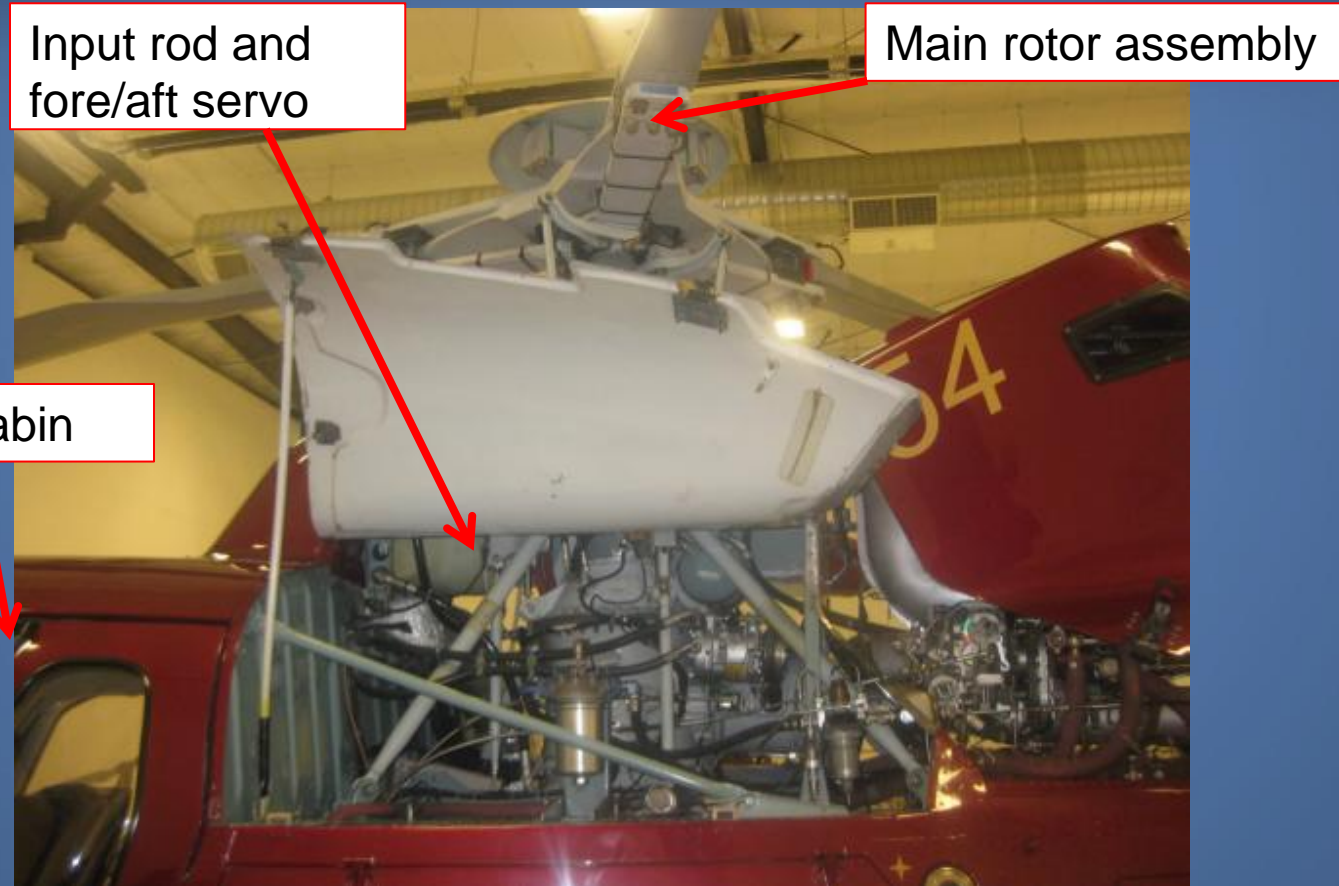
Fuselage
and engine



Preflight Sequence

- 100-hour maintenance inspection conducted
- Fore/aft servo replaced
- Check flight flown
- 2 tour flights flown
- Accident occurred on
 - Third tour flight
 - 3.5 flight hours after maintenance

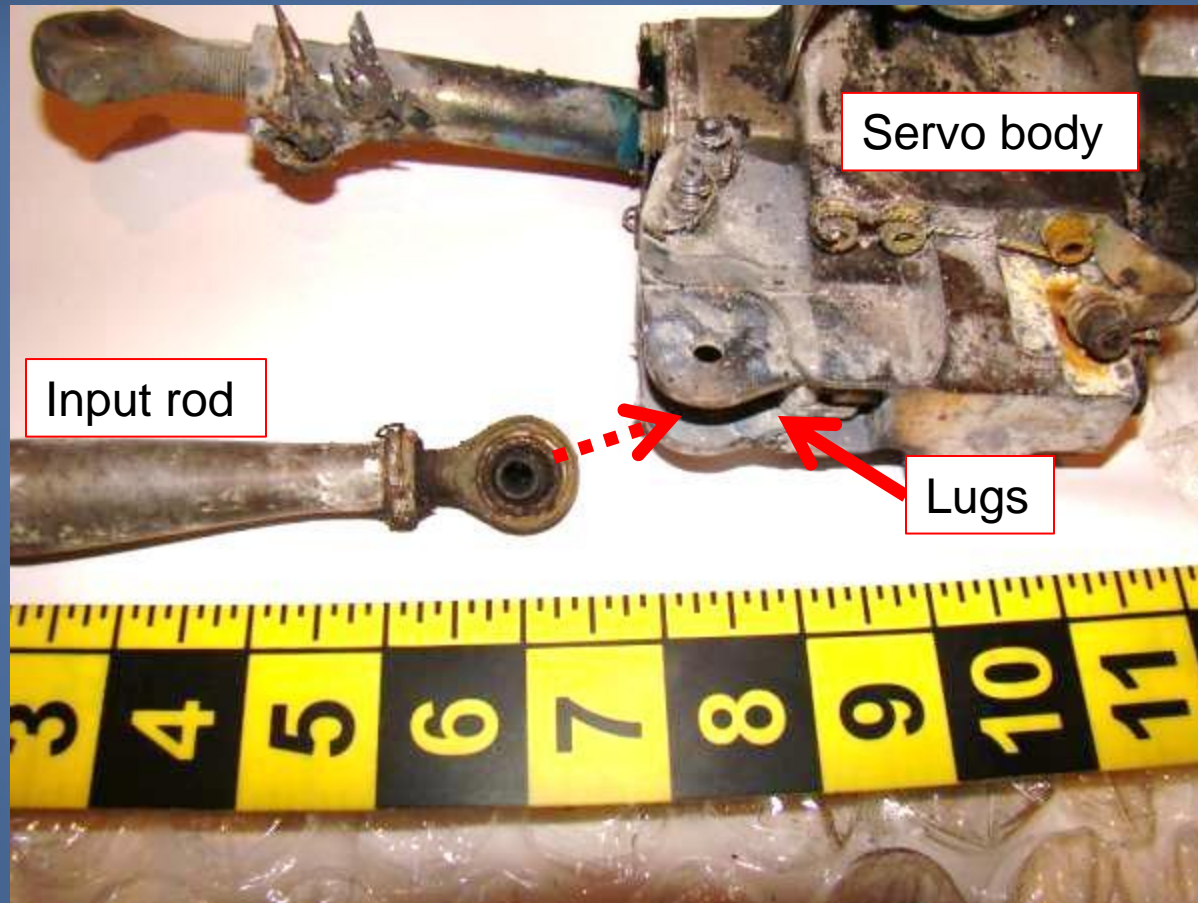
View of Helicopter Components



Initial Findings

- No evidence of nonstandard flight
- No evidence of bird strike
- Altitude clear of terrain/obstacles
- Weather not a factor

Input Rod and Servo



Safety Issues

- Reuse of degraded self-locking nuts
- Maintenance personnel fatigue
- Lack of work cards with delineated steps
- Lack of human factors training for maintenance personnel

Parties to the Investigation

- Federal Aviation Administration
- Sundance Helicopters

Accredited Representative

- Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'Analyses (BEA)
 - Eurocopter
 - Turbomeca

Federal Agency Assistance

- National Park Service
 - Site access and control





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